

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 24, 26-29, and 31-35 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 2, 25, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for the same reasons as set forth in Paper No. 8, paragraph 6, mailed on May 12, 2003. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have cancelled claims 2, 23, 25, and 30 herewith, and accordingly, respectfully request that remaining claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 24, 26-29, and 31-35 be allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3-15-04

By: Ryan W. Massey
Ryan W. Massey, Reg. No. 38,543

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

RWM/dr